

2612

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masato TSUKADA

Appln. No. 09/666,801

Group Art Unit: 2612

Confirmation No.: not assigned

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: September 21, 2000

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC COLOR CORRECTION AND RECORDING  
MEDIUM STORING A CONTROL PROGRAM THEREFOR

#6  
11-30-01  
RECEIVED  
NOV 26 2001  
Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 6-133329, published May 13, 1994 was previously filed on January 16, 2001.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 3-229572, published October 11, 1991.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2-220566, published September 3, 1990.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 6-121159, published April 29, 1994 was previously filed on January 16, 2001.
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 6-309433, published November 4, 1994.
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 8-79549, published March 22, 1996 was previously filed on January 16, 2001.
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 10-198795, published July 31, 1998 was previously filed on January 16, 2001.

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8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 11-17969, published January 22, 1999 was previously filed on January 16, 2001.

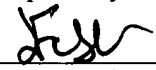
One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated September 11, 2001, and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof, which cites and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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[Ref: Q60955]

Claims: 1, 7, 8 and 10

Cited Literature: 1, 2 and 3

Comments

Cited Example 1 contains a description of an "automatic color correction device/automatic color correction method which carries out a color correcting conversion using only specific color phases based on a representative color that is selected as a representative color based on a distribution frequency obtained by calculating the distribution frequency of a color phase for a particular object (category).

At the same time, for example, as described in Cited Example 2, the "preparation of a color corresponding parameter (matrix coefficient) for each color phase area for performing color corrections" is nothing more than known technology that the party in question could have devised by normal means.

For these reasons, it cannot be said that the correction of colors by modifying the color correction parameters for each color phase area using an area divided into the distribution frequencies areas described in Cited Example 1 above, would have presented any particular difficulties for the party in question.

Again, for example, the use of saturation and lightness other than the color phase as described in Cited Example 3, is no more than a matter of design that could have been selected as a matter of convenience by the party in question.

For these reasons, as of this writing, it must be said that the invention pertaining to Claims 1, 7, 8 and 10 of this application was based on known matters and the invention described in Cited Examples 1, 2 and 3 and could have been easily devised by the party in question.

#### List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H6-133329 ✓
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H3-229572 ✓
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H2-220566 ✓

#### Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

Searched Fields:      IPC 7th Ed.      G06T 1/00, 510  
   G06T 5/00, 100  
   H04N 1/46

#### Database Name

##### Prior Art Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H6-121159
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H6-309433 ✓
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H8-79549
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H10-198795
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. H11-17969

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.